

25 Flee as Flames Destroy Apartment

Residents of an East Oakland apartment house were forced to flee when fire gutted the wood frame building yesterday.

Asst. Fire Chief Robert McGue said 25 residents of the building at 1154 East 12th St. escaped injury when fire broke out in one of the second-floor apartments.

Forty-five firefighters brought the blaze, which engulfed the second floor and the attic, under control in 20 minutes.

Chief McGue estimated damage at \$25,000.

A fire yesterday at 6 p.m. near the Claremont Hotel threatened a stand of dead eucalyptus trees on the slope north of the 7300 block of Claremont Avenue.

Battalion Chief John Thornton said the blaze, which was quickly brought under control, was started by a road flare tossed into the heavy grass. The flare had been set out by police after a minor accident on Claremont Avenue.

Witnesses told police that a tall, bearded man threw the flare and walked away.

Walk of the Tenth SEP 23 1955

You'd have a tough time convincing Robert R. McGue, newly appointed lieutenant in the Oakland Fire Department, that 13 is an unlucky number.

He was fearful of that when, some years ago, he ranked 13th on the Civil Service list in a promotional examination for chief operator. But he got the appointment, just before the list expired.

Last Thursday he was again appointed, this time as lieutenant, just before the list for that position expired. His spot on the lieutenant list—13th.

Oakland fireman injured during Head-Royce blaze

MON SEP 24 1984
An assistant chief in the Oakland Fire Department was injured early yesterday morning as he helped about 30 other firefighters battle a two-alarm blaze at Oakland's exclusive Head-Royce School.

One of Asst. Chief Robert McGue's eyelids was cut during the 45-minute effort to bring the blaze under control in the school's art building, said Asst. Chief Don Matthews.

McGué's injury was treated with stitches.

Matthews said damage to about one-third of the building, including one classroom that was engulfed in flames, was estimated "in excess of" \$175,000. Most of the damage was caused by smoke and water, he added.

The cause of the fire, which was reported shortly after midnight, remains under investigation, said Matthews.